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EVALUATIONS  
ENVIRONNMENTALES



VOLUME: 239

DATE: le mercredi, 26 septembre 1990

BEFORE/DEVANT:


A. KOVEN Chairman/Présidente  
E. MARTEL Member/Commissaire

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HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL BY THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES FOR A CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR  
TIMBER MANAGEMENT ON CROWN LANDS IN ONTARIO

IN THE MATTER of the Environmental  
Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1980, c.140;

- and -

IN THE MATTER of the Class Environmental  
Assessment for Timber Management on Crown  
Lands in Ontario;

- and -

IN THE MATTER of an Order-in-Council  
(O.C. 2449/87) authorizing the  
Environmental Assessment Board to  
administer a funding program, in  
connection with the environmental  
assessment hearing with respect to the  
Timber Management Class  
Environmental Assessment, and to  
distribute funds to qualified  
participants.

-----  
Public hearing held at the Geraldton Curling  
Club, 200 Wardrobe Avenue East, Geraldton,  
Ontario, on Wednesday, September 26th, 1990,  
commencing at 2:00 p.m.

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VOLUME 239  
(Official Transcript)

BEFORE:

MRS. ANNE KOVEN  
MR. ELIE MARTEL

Chairman  
Member



A P P E A R A N C E S

MR. V. FREIDIN, Q.C.)	MINISTRY OF NATURAL
MS. C. BLASTORAH )	RESOURCES
MS. K. MURPHY )	
MR. B. CAMPBELL )	
MS. J. SEABORN )	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
MS. B. HARVIE )	
MR. R. TUER, Q.C. )	ONTARIO FOREST INDUSTRY
MR. R. COSMAN )	ASSOCIATION and ONTARIO
MS. E. CRONK )	LUMBER MANUFACTURERS'
MR. P.R. CASSIDY )	ASSOCIATION
MR. H. TURKSTRA	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
	BOARD
MR. J.E. HANNA )	ONTARIO FEDERATION
DR. T. QUINNEY )	OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS
MR. D. HUNTER )	NISHNAWBE-ASKI NATION
MS. S. BAIR-MUIRHEAD)	and WINDIGO TRIBAL
	COUNCIL
MR. J.F. CASTRILLI )	
MS. M. SWENARCHUK )	FORESTS FOR TOMORROW
MR. R. LINDGREN )	
MS. B. SOLANDT-MAXWELL)	
MR. D. COLBORNE )	GRAND COUNCIL TREATY #3
MS. N. KLEER )	
MR. C. REID )	ONTARIO METIS &
MR. R. REILLY )	ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION
MR. P. SANFORD )	KIMBERLY-CLARK OF CANADA
MS. L. NICHOLLS )	LIMITED and SPRUCE FALLS
MR. D. WOOD )	POWER & PAPER COMPANY
MR. D. MacDONALD	ONTARIO FEDERATION OF
	LABOUR





APPEARANCES: (Cont'd)

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MR. Y. GERVAIS	)	ONTARIO TRAPPERS
MR. R. BARNES	)	ASSOCIATION
MR. R. EDWARDS	)	NORTHERN ONTARIO TOURIST
MR. B. McKERCHER	)	OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION
MR. L. GREENSPOON	)	NORTHWATCH
MS. B. LLOYD	)	
MR. J.W. ERICKSON, Q.C.)		RED LAKE-EAR FALLS JOINT
MR. B. BABCOCK	)	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE
MR. D. SCOTT	)	NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO
MR. J.S. TAYLOR	)	ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
MR. J.W. HARBELL	)	GREAT LAKES FOREST
MR. S.M. MAKUCH	)	
MR. J. EBBS		ONTARIO PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS ASSOCIATION
MR. D. KING		VENTURE TOURISM ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO
MR. H. GRAHAM		CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF FORESTRY (CENTRAL ONTARIO SECTION)
MR. G.J. KINLIN		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MR. S.J. STEPINAC		MINISTRY OF NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT & MINES
MR. M. COATES		ONTARIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
MR. P. ODORIZZI		BEARDMORE-LAKE NIPIGON WATCHDOG SOCIETY





APPEARANCES: (Cont'd)

MR. R.L. AXFORD	CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SINGLE INDUSTRY TOWNS
MR. M.O. EDWARDS	FORT FRANCES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MR. P.D. McCUTCHEON	GEORGE NIXON
MR. C. BRUNETTA	NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO TOURISM ASSOCIATION





I N D E X   O F   P R O C E E D I N G S

<u>Witness:</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Kevin Belanger	43191





I N D E X   O F   E X H I B I T S

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1404	Affidavit of Service of John Dadbs re newspaper and radio notice of public hearings in Geraldton.	43190





1 ---Upon commencing at 2:00 p.m.

2 MADAM CHAIR: Please be seated.

3 This is the third scheduled meeting of  
4 the Timber Management Hearing in Geraldton. Is there  
5 anyone here today who did not attend either of the two  
6 sessions yesterday?

7 (no response)

8 Well, no new faces. I don't have to go  
9 through my introductory remarks again and I guess there  
10 is no one who wants to speak to the Board, so this will  
11 be a very quick session and we will just have a few  
12 pieces of business to go through.

13 Ms. Blastorah?

14 MS. BLASTORAH: I have one affidavit to  
15 file, Mrs. Koven, an affidavit of John Dadds in  
16 relation to this hearing in Geraldton and it's dated  
17 September 25th, 1990, the Affidavit of John Dadds, and  
18 it's in relation to the newspaper and radio notice of  
19 this Geraldton session of the community hearings.

20 MADAM CHAIR: That will be Exhibit 1404.

21 ---EXHIBIT NO. 1404: Affidavit of Service of John  
22 Dadds re newspaper and radio  
23 notice of public hearings in  
Geraldton.

24 MADAM CHAIR: Is there any other business  
25 that we have to take care of this afternoon?

1 I was asked to remind the parties that we  
2 are starting at one o'clock on Monday. The fax was  
3 sent out earlier in the week but some of you are  
4 already travelling so you may not know that.

5 We are sitting 1:00 until 5:00 on Monday  
6 and we will also be sitting on the regular day Tuesday  
7 which is 9:00 to 4:00 and we won't be sitting  
8 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

9 And then the following week we are  
10 sitting Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Ms. Swenarchuk  
11 was unable to produce her witnesses for either of the  
12 two Wednesdays.

13 And I understand there is one person in  
14 the audience who works for Domtar and he or she would  
15 like to address the Board.

16 Who is that?

17 MR. BELANGER: Right here.

18 MADAM CHAIR: Yes. Would you like to  
19 come forward, sir, and we will swear you in.

20 Good afternoon.

21 KEVIN BELANGER, Sworn

22 MADAM CHAIR: And your name, please?

23 MR. BELANGER: Kevin Belanger.

24 MADAM CHAIR: Kevin Belanger. Thank you.

25 Sit down, if you are more comfortable,



1       whichever.

2       PRESENTATION BY MR. BELANGER:

3                   My name is Kevin Belanger, I work for  
4       Domtar Forest Products out of Red Rock, I'm the  
5       regional forester for Domtar.

6                   I would just like to provide some  
7       information on some of the sequences that were shown  
8       last night in Mr. Harold Hein's video and which Domtar  
9       was mentioned.

10                  I can't -- it's very hard to refer to a  
11       specific scene, they weren't numbered so I'm just sort  
12       of going by the notes I took.

13                  The first sequence I would like to  
14       address was that of some washouts on the camp 75 road  
15       as referred to by Mr. Hein. He stated this road was  
16       maintained at the taxpayers' expense. I would just  
17       like to point out that this road was built over 15  
18       years ago by the company and today it has been  
19       maintained at our expense, it was not eligible for  
20       funding.

21                  It was also built prior to any of our  
22       interim guidelines, but when there are washouts that  
23       occur they are being repaired following existing  
24       guidelines. Also on all washouts in general we  
25       regularly maintain four to five hundred kilometres of

1 roads on our licence just to give the Board an idea of  
2 the order of magnitude.

3 MADAM CHAIR: Was that 400 kilometres,  
4 Mr. Belanger?

5 MR. BELANGER: That's correct. Between  
6 four to 500 just primary road. And again, much of this  
7 road was built prior to the guidelines. They were  
8 built from a period anywhere as early as 50 years ago  
9 some of these roads.

10 Again, because of the unpredictability of  
11 the snow melt and Mother Nature in general there is  
12 bound to be washouts occurring. Just to point that  
13 out.

14 The second point I would like to comment  
15 on was a comment made about a dump on the Domtar  
16 licence and I just wanted to point out the present  
17 practices of the company is to haul our garbage to MOE  
18 approved dump sites.

19 There was also a comment made about  
20 batteries in the dump. And again for the Board's  
21 information, that we have a battery recycling program  
22 which sort of an exchange with our suppliers to get  
23 around this type of problem, as well, to save these  
24 dumps from filling up we separate any scrap metal, and  
25 this is something we do on our own and have it removed

1 by a scrap metal dealer.

2 Probably the third one, again it was  
3 difficult to pick up on or make reference to specific  
4 frames, but there was a comment or a question made by  
5 Mr. Hein, he was asking why in a certain area our  
6 licence was sprayed that he couldn't see any poplar  
7 competition.

8 And I am intimately familiar with that  
9 site and I would like to point out to the Board that  
10 this area was chemically tended to control grass  
11 competition, and just a little bit of background on  
12 this, what happens when the grass at this particular  
13 location overtops - these are jackpine seedlings that  
14 are planted there - what happens when the grass  
15 overtops these seedlings, there is -- in the wintertime  
16 there is snow-laden -- the snow falls across the  
17 seedlings and flattens them and it either causes them  
18 to break or bend or smothers them entirely, so just to  
19 clarify and answer Mr. Hein's question.

20 There was one other point Mr. Hein  
21 brought up was about an area in the same location and  
22 had noted that we were burning merchantable wood and if  
23 the Board had it noted the amount of slash at this  
24 location outside of the burn area, this site is a  
25 balsam/fir salvage area and has a preponderance of dead



1 trees in the understorey that were there prior to  
2 harvesting. So the site was harvested and whole tree  
3 chipped, which is a very efficient form of harvesting  
4 in terms of utilization. So it definitely wasn't an  
5 intentional burning of merchantable timber as Mr. Hein  
6 had pointed out.

7 That's about all I could make out from  
8 the video because it was bouncing around there was no  
9 more reference to stop one or stop 2, so I think  
10 probably upon further examination of it, you know,  
11 there may be some further points I would like to --  
12 some further points of clarification I would like to  
13 provide.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Are there any questions for  
15 Mr. Belanger?

16 Mr. Cosman?

17 MR. COSMAN: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair.

18 Mr. Belanger, you referred to the road  
19 that had been washed out in I think the first sequence  
20 of the video. Are you familiar with the specific road  
21 in question?

22 MR. BELANGER: Yes I am, it's just right  
23 off the highway, Highway 11.

24 MR. COSMAN: And is it today in the state  
25 of repair that was shown right after the washout?

1                   MR. BELANGER: Yeah, there has been some  
2 remedial work carried out at that site actually this  
3 summer, beside just filling in that location and  
4 walking away from the location we have done some  
5 remedial work.

6                   Again, the road was built some time ago  
7 -- and we have done work in the form of bank stabilization  
8 and we have taken steps to ensure that washouts don't  
9 occur at that location again.

10                  MR. COSMAN: And with respect to the  
11 dump site that was referred to in the photograph, is  
12 that a site that you are familiar with?

13                  MR. BELANGER: That's correct.

14                  MR. COSMAN: And you have actually seen  
15 that site?

16                  MR. BELANGER: Yes, I know where that  
17 location is.

18                  MR. COSMAN: And are your dump sites  
19 approved by the Ministry of the Environment?

20                  MR. BELANGER: Yes, they are.

21                  MR. COSMAN: Thank you.

22                  MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Belanger, Mr. Hein  
23 mentioned two other points with respect to his  
24 interpretation of what the results of spraying were in  
25 one of the areas that we saw on the video, and he made

1 two points.

2 One is that he thought that in some areas  
3 the spraying had stimulated the growth of poplar, and  
4 of course he is under the impression that it was meant  
5 to suppress poplar, and the second point that he made  
6 was he seemed to be pointing to jackpines that were  
7 sort of juvenile age size and he was showing brown  
8 parts on them and he said that the damage to the  
9 jackpine was also a result of spraying.

10 Were you able to recall those two points  
11 he made, and I know it's difficult because I can't even  
12 tell you exactly where he said that site was located.

13 MR. BELANGER: He was making reference to  
14 another licence area, not to the Domtar Forest Products  
15 licence area, so I'm not familiar with the location. I  
16 saw the video but I'm not too aware of the situation  
17 there, so I can't really comment on that.

18 MADAM CHAIR: Can any of the parties  
19 remind me, what other licence area did he refer to in  
20 the video? I didn't --

21 MR. COSMAN: I believe it was the Auden  
22 Forest, Madam Chair.

23 MADAM CHAIR: How do you spell that?

24 MS. BLASTORAH: A-u-d-e-n, Auden.

25 MADAM CHAIR: Auden forest, and which

1 company has that FMA?

2 MS. BLASTORAH: It's an Abitibi  
3 company -- it's a company unit and the licence holder  
4 is Abitibi-Price.

5 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

6 MR. COSMAN: Madam Chair, again, that was  
7 a matter which was duplicated in the video or in the  
8 slides and we are going to get answers on what happened  
9 there, although I think actually it was the Ministry  
10 that conducts the spraying, as you know, but to the  
11 extent that the company knows, we will get those  
12 answers.

13 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you, Mr.  
14 Cosman.

15 MS. BLASTORAH: Mrs. Koven, I'm advised  
16 in relation to the Auden unit, the licence holder is  
17 Abitibi-Price, the third party operators are MacMillan  
18 Bloedel and Northern Wood Preservers.

19 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.

20 All right, thank you very much, Mr.  
21 Belanger.

22 MS. BLASTORAH: Mrs. Koven, I have one  
23 question.

24 MADAM CHAIR: Sorry.

25 MS. BLASTORAH: Just before Mr. Belanger



1 leaves. You mentioned the water crossing that was  
2 shown in the video had been repaired this past summer,  
3 Mr. Belanger. Did the Ministry have any involvement in  
4 that repair work?

5 MR. BELANGER: Yes, the repair work was  
6 discussed with the Ministry as to what type of remedial  
7 action should take place to ensure that that situation  
8 does not occur again.

9 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you.

10 MR. COSMAN: Madam Chair, just one  
11 question. There was a reference in the video to  
12 culverts, Mr. Belanger.

13 Is there anything you can add  
14 to what you have already said about what appears to  
15 have been the case of a lot of water around a specific  
16 culvert. I think it was tied in with the sequence of  
17 the road.

18 MR. BELANGER: Yeah. Other than the fact  
19 that it's going to the magnitude and the large area  
20 that it's quite likely that that is leveled to a curve,  
21 at some point somewhere on the licence you're liable to  
22 have a washout for whatever reasons, sometimes even  
23 beaver related as well as snow melt.

24 MADAM CHAIR: And one more question Mr.  
25 Belanger. In your area, your FMA area, with respect to

1 roads we have heard suggestions that there is some  
2 demand for roads to be maintained. Do you have remote  
3 tourist operators operating in your area as well?

4 MR. BELANGER: We have one remote  
5 outfitter. Again, I say remote of a semi-remote nature  
6 and we don't really impact on him in any way that I'm  
7 aware of.

8 MADAM CHAIR: So the issues you are  
9 facing here have to do with the public wanting roads  
10 maintained for various reasons as opposed to road  
11 closures to protect any remote tourist operator?

12 MR. BELANGER: Yeah, it wasn't a closure  
13 issue, it was a just a maintenance issue.

14 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much.

15 MR. BELANGER: If I might add, the one  
16 road, the Hudson Bay Road that Mr. Hein refers to is a  
17 tertiary road and the date at which he showed that was  
18 May the 9th.

19 This is a period of time -- I believe it  
20 was May the 9th. It was a period of time that we often  
21 refer to as spring breakup.

22 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you very  
23 much.

24 MS. BLASTORAH: Mrs. Koven, just perhaps  
25 a point of clarification arising out of that last

1 comment.

2 Mr. Belanger, in terms of the pictures we  
3 saw of the Hudson Bay Road, you indicated that those  
4 photographs were taken during what you call the spring  
5 breakup. What would the consequences of that be or  
6 what relation would that have to what we were seeing in  
7 the video, the fact that it was the spring breakup  
8 period?

9 MR. BELANGER: I believe Mr. Hein  
10 commented on the condition of the road. Any haul  
11 traffic or any traffic at all on a road during the  
12 spring breakup period will result in rutting and mud  
13 and anybody with a dirt driveway in northern Ontario  
14 knows the impact of the snow melt on their driveway in  
15 the spring, so I believe that's the point Mr. Hein was  
16 making.

17 MS. BLASTORAH: Thank you.

18 ---Mr. Belanger withdraws

19 MADAM CHAIR: All right. We will close  
20 this session of the Timber Management Hearing and we  
21 will return at seven o'clock this evening.

22 Thank you.

23 ---Recess taken at 2:20 p.m.

24 ---On resuming at 7:00 p.m.

25 MADAM CHAIR: Please be seated. Good

1 evening again.

2 Is there anyone in the audience tonight  
3 who has not been at the sessions, either yesterday or  
4 this afternoon?

5 (no response)

6 In that case then we will have a very  
7 short discussion. I won't go through my introductory  
8 remarks and there is really nothing that we have to  
9 say, unless someone wants to speak to us.

10 Do the parties have anything they need to  
11 discuss.

12 Mr. Cosman?

13 MR. COSMAN: No, thank you, Madam Chair.

14 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Well, in that  
15 case we will close the session very quickly.

16 Thank you very much for coming and for  
17 the hospitality we have been shown in Geraldton and we  
18 close this session of the Timber Management Hearing.

19 Thank you.

20 ---Whereupon the hearing was adjourned at 7:02 p.m., to  
21 be reconvened in Toronto, Ontario, on Monday,  
22 October 1st, 1990, commencing at 1:00 p.m.

23  
24  
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